

CHAPTER 413

(House Bill 1370)

AN ACT concerning

Charles County – Alcoholic Beverages Licensee Penalties

FOR the purpose of providing for certain penalties for alcoholic beverages licensees in Charles County who sell alcoholic beverages to persons under 21 years of age; requiring the Board of License Commissioners to consider the economic impact on the licensee’s business when determining the number of days for suspension of a license; and providing that if a license is suspended for less than a certain number of days the suspension shall be only on certain days of the week.

BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,
Article 2B – Alcoholic Beverages
Section 203(n)
Annotated Code of Maryland
(1990 Replacement Volume and 1991 Supplement)

SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF MARYLAND, That the Laws of Maryland read as follows:

Article 2B – Alcoholic Beverages

203.

(n) (1) Notwithstanding any provision of this Code to the contrary, in Charles County, the Board of License Commissioners may impose a fine not to exceed \$1,000 or suspend an alcoholic beverage license, for any violation of the alcoholic beverage laws affecting Charles County. All moneys collected under this subsection shall be deposited into the general funds of the County.

(2) IN CHARLES COUNTY, IF AN ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES LICENSEE OR AN EMPLOYEE OF AN ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES LICENSEE SELLS ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES TO A PERSON UNDER 21 YEARS OF AGE, THE BOARD OF LICENSE COMMISSIONERS MAY:

(I) FOR THE FIRST OFFENSE, SUSPEND THE LICENSE FOR NOT MORE THAN 3 DAYS OR IMPOSE A FINE NOT TO EXCEED \$500 OR BOTH; AND

(II) FOR EACH SUBSEQUENT OFFENSE, A PENALTY AS DETERMINED BY THE BOARD OF LICENSE COMMISSIONERS.

(3) (I) IN THIS PARAGRAPH THE TERM “ECONOMIC IMPACT” INCLUDES, BUT IS NOT LIMITED TO, THE RATIO BETWEEN TOTAL SALES OF ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES AS COMPARED WITH THE TOTAL SALES OF THE ESTABLISHMENT BEFORE AND DURING A LICENSE SUSPENSION.